

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 07351 211328 Z

43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-02 IO-03 PRS-01 RSR-01 /049 W

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R 211257 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2815

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USUN NEW YORK 2405

USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7351

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS IZ US

SUBJ: POSSIBLE TRIP BY KURDISH LEADERS TO US

1. BARZANI REP IN BEIRUT, AZIZ SHAYKH RIDHA, RECENTLY INFORMED EMBOFF THAT ONE OF BARZANI' S SONS, MASOUD, AND KDP POLITBURO MEMBER MAHMOUD OTHMAN ARE CONTEMPLATING VISIT TO U. S. IN NEAR FUTURE. HE ASKED WHETHER THEY WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS KURDISH AFFAIRS WITH HIGH- LEVEL DEPT OFFICIALS. EMBOFF RECALLED KURDISH EMISSARY ZAID OTHMAN HAD RECEIVED SUCH TREATMENT DURING HIS VISIT TO DEPT LAST SUMMER, BUT SAID EMBASSY WOULD HAVE TO SEEK DEPT' S GUIDANCE ON THIS OCCASION. RIDHA REMARKED THAT MASOUD AND MAHMOUD OTHMAN FAR OUTRANK ZAID IN KDP POWER- STRUCTURE.

2. RIDHA HAD LITTLE NEW TO ADD TO SITUATION IN NORTH IRAQ AS REPORTED TEHRAN' S 4108. SAID BARZANI WAS DELIGHTED WITH VISITS BY WASH POST AND NY TIMES AND HOPES AMERICAN PRESS WILL DEVOTE INCREASED ATTENTION TO KURDISH CAUSE IN FUTURE.

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3. RIDHA CLAIMS TO HAVE EXERTED SUCCESSFUL INFLUENCE AMONG KURDS RESIDING IN BEIRUT (HE ESTIMATES SOME 80,000 LIVE HERE, MANY IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS) TO GET THEM TO RESIST FEDAYEEN/ LEFTISH BLANDISHMENTS DURING RECENT GOL- FEDAYEEN CLASHES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WHAT REPLY SHOULD EMBASSY MAKE TO RIDHA RE APPOINTMENTS IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR MASOUD AND OTHMAN?
HOUGHTON

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: PINS, IZ, US
To: AMMAN
ANKARA
BAGHDAD
MOSCOW
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEHRAN

USUN NEW YORK

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